



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 19, 2002

For Information Contact Public Affairs
Mike Johns (602) 514-7566

DOUGLAS WOMAN SENTENCED TO 188 MONTHS FOR IMPORTATION OF COCAINE

TUCSON, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on June 19, 2002, Deyanira Mancha, 46, of Douglas, Arizona, was sentenced to serve one-hundred and eighty-eight (188) months in prison by United States District Judge John M. Roll, in Tucson, Arizona. On March 21, 2002, a federal jury convicted Mancha of Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine and Importation of Cocaine.

The evidence at trial showed that on July 2, 2000, Mancha had entered the Douglas port of entry driving a pickup truck registered to another individual. A subsequent inspection of the truck revealed a false bed compartment which contained 70 packages of cocaine having a total weight of approximately 155 pounds and a purity of 94%. Mancha is the ex-wife of former Border Patrol Agent Jorge Mancha, who was convicted in 1997 of numerous cocaine and marijuana charges, and currently is serving a 30 year sentence in federal prison.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the United States Customs Service in Douglas, Arizona. The prosecution was handled by Carin C. Duryée, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-00-1046-TUC-JMR RELEASE NUMBER 2002-112